

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**RS20805**

This proposal amends Idaho Code section 31-3201B to increase the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) fee under 31-3201B from ten dollars (\$10.00) to fifteen dollars (\$15.00). At \$15.00, this fee would restore POST's revenues to the level necessary to meet the training demands of the profession, maintain POST's administrative operations, and provide for the expected increase in demand for services over the next five (5) years.

POST lacks sufficient funding to meet its needs given its current mission. Dedicated funding that was established for POST is no longer adequate and is actually declining. In addition, POST is now expected to retain a \$500,000 cash balance at year-end. In an effort to achieve that goal, POST has made many substantial cuts in expenditures in 2009 and again in 2010, but those cuts have further diminished POST's ability to effectively carry out its mission of training and certifying peace officers for every law enforcement agency in Idaho.

POST has dedicated funding (the "POST Fund") in accordance with Title 31 Chapter 3201A and 3201B. Funding under Chapter 3201A is based on a percentage of various fees charged by the courts, and accounts for about 26% of POST's total revenues. Though that fund source is a relatively small part of our total revenues, it has been stable.

Funding under Chapter 3201B is based on a set \$10.00 fee charged to any individual found guilty of a felony, misdemeanor, or traffic, conservation or ordinance violation. Revenues from this fund account for 72% of POSTS total revenues and they have fallen off sharply during the past years. The increase from 2008 to 2009 was \$97,134, but the drop from 2009 to 2010 was \$404,835, and the drop from 2010 to 2011 was \$259,596. The total drop in revenues from 2009 to 2011 was \$664,431.

FISCAL NOTE

A fee increase from \$10.00 to \$15.00 would generate an additional \$1,139,530, restoring POST funding back to levels necessary to maintain administrative operations, meet the training demands of the profession, and provide for expected demand for services over the next five (5) years without taking money from the General Fund, any other agency, or out of anyone's pocket except those convicted of some offense.

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Statement of Purpose / Fiscal Note

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